LIST OF CLAIMS, SHOWING THE STATUS OF EACH CLAIM

Underlining denotes added text while strikethrough denotes deleted text.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-6, as indicated in the following list.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a library of mutant nucleic acid molecules comprising the steps of :

(a) obtaining a template nucleic acid;

(b) preparing two or more primers corresponding to the template nucleic acid, wherein a least one primer is in opposite orientation to the remaining primers and ~~at least~~ wherein one primer is a mutagenic primer corresponding to a desired mutation;

(c) mixing ~~the~~ said primers in said step (b) under conditions such that said primers ~~so as to~~ hybridize ~~said primers~~ to said template nucleic acid to produce a mixture; and

(d) subjecting the mixture of step (c) to the linear cyclic amplification reaction to produce a library of mutant template nucleic acids.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said two or more primers comprises 3 to15 primers ~~or 4 to 7 primers~~.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said primers in said step (b) are discontiguous.

11. The method according to claim 8, wherein said primers in step (b) are present in less than saturation concentration.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein all said primers in step (b) are mutagenic primers.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~8~~ 12, wherein said at least one mutagenic primer comprises 1 to 12 nucleotide mutations.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~8~~ 12, wherein said at least one mutagenic primer encodes 1 to 4 amino acid mutations.

15. The method according to claim 8, wherein said template nucleic acid corresponds to a desired protein product.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein said protein product comprises an enzyme, hormone, vaccine, peptide therapeutic or antibody.

17. (Previously Cancelled)

18. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein said two or more primers comprise 4 to 7 primers.

19. (New) A method for producing a library of mutant nucleic acid molecules comprising the steps of :

(a) obtaining a template nucleic acid;

(b) obtaining at least three primers corresponding to said template nucleic acid, wherein a least one primer is in opposite orientation to the remaining primers and at least one primer is a mutagenic primer corresponding to a desired mutation;

(c) mixing said primers in said step (b) under conditions such that said primers hybridize to said template nucleic acid to produce a mixture; and

(d) subjecting the mixture of step (c) to the linear cyclic amplification reaction to produce a library of mutant template nucleic acids.

20. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein said at least three primers comprise 3 to15 primers.

21. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein said primers in said step (b) are discontiguous.

22. (New) The method according to Claim 19, wherein said primers in step (b) are present in less than saturation concentration.

23. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein all said primers in step (b) are mutagenic primers.

24. (New) The method of Claim19, wherein said at least one mutagenic primer comprises 1 to 12 nucleotide mutations.

25. (New) The method of Claim19, wherein said at least one mutagenic primer encodes 1 to 4 amino acid mutations.

26. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein said template nucleic acid corresponds to a desired protein product.

27. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein said protein product comprises an enzyme, hormone, vaccine, peptide therapeutic or antibody.

28. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein said two or more primers comprise 4 to 7 primers.